

Ice Cream Scoop

Background of the Invention

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a scoop. More particularly, the present
5 invention relates to an ice cream scoop.

2. Description of the Related Art

A conventional ice cream scoop includes two handles pivotally connected by a pin, and a spring is attached between the handles for biasing the handles away from each other. Each handle includes a quarter spherical bowl formed on 10 an end thereof. The quarter spherical bowls together form a hemispherical bowl for scooping ice cream in a container. When the handles are pressed toward each other, the quarter spherical bowls move away from each other and thus reject the ice cream from the quarter spherical bowls. However, it was found that the ice cream could be successfully rejected when the scoop lay in a horizontal direction, 15 as the ice cream is sticky in a way.

Summary of the Invention

An object of the present invention is to provide an ice cream scoop for reliably rejecting ice cream.

An ice cream scoop in accordance with the present invention includes a 20 first scoop member and a second scoop member. The first scoop member includes a handle having a first end and a second end. A ring is formed on the first end of the handle of the first scoop member. The second scoop member includes a handle having a first end and a second end. A bowl is formed on the first end of the handle of the second scoop member. The second end of the handle of the first

scoop member and the second end of the handle of the second scoop member are pivotally connected.

The ring of the first scoop member is engageable with the bowl of the second scoop member to form a scoop for scooping ice cream. An elastic element 5 is attached between the second end of the handle of the first scoop member and the second end of the handle of the second scoop member for biasing the ring of the first scoop member and the bowl of the second scoop member away from each other for ejecting ice cream.

The ring of the first scoop member is at least partially removably received 10 in the bowl of the second scoop member.

In an embodiment of the invention, the ring includes a stepped portion in an inner periphery thereof. The ring of the first scoop member rests on top of the bowl of the second scoop member when in a state for scooping, with an outer periphery of the stepped portion of the ring being in contact with an outer 15 periphery of the bowl.

Other objects, advantages, and novel features of the invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

Brief Description of the Drawings

20 Fig. 1 is an exploded perspective view of an ice cream scoop in accordance with the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the ice cream scoop in accordance with the present invention.

25 Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the ice cream scoop in accordance with the present invention in a state for scooping ice cream.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 3, wherein the ice cream scoop is in a state for rejecting ice cream.

Fig. 5 is a section view similar to Fig. 3, illustrating scooping of ice cream.

5 Fig. 6 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 4, illustrating rejection of ice cream.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, an ice cream scoop in accordance with the present invention generally comprises a first scoop member 1 and a second scoop member 2. The first scoop member 1 includes a handle 11 and a ring 12 formed on an end of the handle 11. The ring 12 includes a stepped portion 121 in an inner periphery thereof. The second scoop member 2 includes a handle 21 and a bowl 22 formed on an end of the handle 21.

The other end of the handle 11 of the first scoop member 1 and the other 15 end of the handle of the second scoop member 2 are pivotally connected by a pin 4. An elastic element 3 is attached between the other end of the handle 11 of the first scoop member 1 and the other end of the handle of the second scoop member 2 for biasing the ring 12 of the first scoop member 1 and the bowl 22 of the second scoop member 2 away from each other.

20 Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the ice cream scoop in a state for scooping ice cream. Fig. 4 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 3, wherein the ice cream scoop is in a state for rejecting ice cream. As illustrated in Fig. 3, the ring 12 of the first scoop member 1 is at least partially received in the bowl 22 of the second scoop member 2 when in the scooping position, forming a scoop for scooping. In 25 particular, the ring 12 of the first scoop member 1 rests on top of the bowl 22 of the second scoop member 2 when in a state for scooping, with an outer periphery

the stepped portion 121 of the ring 12 being in contact with an outer periphery of the bowl 22.

Referring to Fig. 5, when scooping ice cream, the handles 11 and 21 are pressed toward each other by a hand of a user. When the pressing force is released, 5 the elastic element 3 returns to its initial position, moving the ring 12 of the first scoop member 1 and the bowl 22 of the second scoop member 2 away from each other, as shown in Fig. 6. The ice cream can thus be easily rejected, as the ice cream is only in contact with a small portion of an inner periphery of the ring 12. More particularly, the ice cream leaves the bowl 22 and is thus less sticky to the 10 ice cream scoop.

The stepped portion 121 of the ring 12 of the first scoop member 1 reinforces the ring 12 and thus allows scooping of hard ice cream without the risk of deformation of the ring 12.

Although the invention has been explained in relation to its preferred 15 embodiment, it is to be understood that many other possible modifications and variations can be made without departing from the scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed.